

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising transfer means for transferring print data to a plurality of printers so as not to disorder a page  
5 order when said plurality of printers are allowed to print a document.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising designating means for designating a "prefer  
10 print order" mode,

and wherein when said "prefer print order" mode is designated by said designating means, said transfer means transfers the print data to said plurality of printers so as not to disorder the page order.

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3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when said "prefer print order" mode is not designated by said designating means, said transfer means selects the printer which is determined to finish the print  
20 earliest and transfers the print data to said printer.

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4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transfer means transfers the print data on a page unit basis.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when a document of a plurality of pages and one copy is

printed, said transfer means collectively transfers the print data to each of said printers every almost uniform number of pages obtained by dividing the number of pages by the number of printers.

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6. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when a document of a plurality of pages and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to print on a copy unit basis is designated, said transfer means transfers the print data of a plurality of pages and one copy to each of said printers.

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when a document of a plurality of pages and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to print on a copy unit basis is not designated, said transfer means transfers the print data of a plurality of copies of each page to each of said printers.

8. An apparatus according to claim 6 or 7, further comprising instructing means for instructing the mode to print on a copy unit basis.

9. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of printers are cascade connected.

10. An apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising a plurality of printers.

11. An information processing method comprising a transfer step of transferring print data to a plurality of printers so as not to disorder a page order when  
5 said plurality of printers are allowed to print a document.

12. A method according to claim 11, further  
10 comprising a designating step of designating a "prefer print order" mode,

and wherein when said "prefer print order" mode is designated in said designating step, in said transfer step, the print data is transferred to said plurality  
15 of printers so as not to disorder the page order.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein when said "prefer print order" mode is not designated in said designating step, in said transfer step, the  
20 printer which is determined to finish the print earliest is selected and the print data is transferred to said printer.

14. A method according to claim 11, wherein in said  
25 transfer step, the print data is transferred on a page unit basis.

15. A method according to claim 11, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages and one copy is printed, the print data is collectively transferred to each of said printers every almost  
5 uniform number of pages obtained by dividing the number of pages by the number of printers.

16. A method according to claim 11, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages  
10 and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to print on a copy unit basis is designated, the print data of a plurality of pages and one copy is transferred to each of said printers.

15 17. A method according to claim 11, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to print on a copy unit basis is not designated, the print data of a plurality of copies of each page is  
20 transferred to each of said printers.

18. A method according to claim 16 or 17, further comprising an instructing step of instructing the mode to print on a copy unit basis.

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19. A method according to claim 11, wherein said plurality of printers are cascade connected.

20. A method according to claim 11, wherein said information processing method is performed by a printer driver.

5        21. A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program, said program comprising a transfer step of transferring print data to a plurality of printers so as not to disorder a page order when said plurality of printers are allowed to print a document.

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22. A medium according to claim 21, wherein said program further comprises a designating step of designating a "prefer print order" mode,

15        and when said "prefer print order" mode is designated in said designating step, in said transfer step, the print data is transferred to said plurality of printers so as not to disorder the page order.

20        23. A medium according to claim 21, wherein when said "prefer print order" mode is not designated in said designating step, in said transfer step, the printer which is determined to finish the print earliest is selected and the print data is transferred to said printer.

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24. A medium according to claim 21, wherein in said transfer step, the print data is transferred on a page

unit basis.

25. A medium according to claim 21, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages  
5 and one copy is printed, the print data is collectively transferred to each of said printers every almost uniform number of pages obtained by dividing the number of pages by the number of printers.

10 26. A medium according to claim 21, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to print on a copy unit basis is designated, the print  
15 data of a plurality of pages and one copy is transferred to each of said printers.

27. A medium according to claim 21, wherein in said transfer step, when a document of a plurality of pages and a plurality of copies is printed, if a mode to  
20 print on a copy unit basis is not designated, the print data of a plurality of copies of each page is transferred to each of said printers.

28. A medium according to claim 26 or 27, wherein  
25 said program further comprises an instructing step of instructing the mode to print on a copy unit basis.

29. A medium according to claim 21, wherein said plurality of printers are cascade connected.

30. A medium according to claim 21, wherein said  
5 program is a printer driver program.